## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL

## Marcia Mayeda Director

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## PRESS RELEASE- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 23, 2012

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## DOG CAUGHT – YOUNG GIRL RECOVERS FROM BITE TO FACE

Lancaster, CA....The County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control has been patrolling a designated area of Lancaster for an elusive dog that bit a young girl on the face just before Christmas. Officers even transferred an off-road vehicle from another animal care center to the Lancaster Center recently to help track the dog, which has escaped capture by running into the desert.

"We have spotted the dog on a few occasions since the attack, but it eluded our officers by running into the desert," said Marcia Mayeda, Director of the County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control. "Fortunately, we have been able to track the dog's travel patterns over the past few weeks. A team of county animal control officers were able to catch the dog over the weekend while it was heading back towards the desert from a local Lancaster neighborhood," Mayeda stated.

On December 21, 2011 at about 8:30am, a 3 ½ year-old Lancaster girl was standing in her front yard on the 44000 block of 18<sup>th</sup> Street West in Lancaster, when this stray Pit Bull / Labrador mix dog ran onto the property and bit her in the face. The dog was scared off by an adult family member and the child rushed to a local hospital for treatment. "Now that we've got the dog, it will be held under observation and hopefully its owner will come forward," Mayeda said. "It's important to report stray dogs in your neighborhood to minimize the public safety risk in the community," said Danny Ubario, Shelter Manager for the Lancaster Animal Care Center. "We hope to meet our young bite victim soon so that she can be assured this dog is not running loose anymore, and to help her overcome any lingering anxiety she may be experiencing," said Ubario.



Anyone with any information on this Lancaster area dog is asked to call Sgt. Chavez at the Lancaster Animal Care Center at (661) 974-8343.